

**IN THE CLAIMS:****Kindly replace the claims with the following:**

1. (Currently Amended) A data processing arrangement comprising:
  - an input circuit [INP] for forming data items into successive groups of data [GRP] and for generating a basic control data item [BCD] and an additional control data item [SCD] for each group of data [GRP], ~~a basic control data item [BCD] indicating for each data item one of a plurality of terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item should be applied, and an~~ the additional control data item [SCD] indicating for each data item if this data item is valid [+], or not valid [-];
  - a data processing circuit [PRC], containing a plurality of terminals, for processing the data applied to the terminals in order to obtain an output data item; and
  - an interconnection network [ICN] for applying selected ones of the data items in the successive groups of data [GRP] from said input circuit to corresponding ones of a plurality of the terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] of said processing circuit in dependence on the basic control data item [BCD] and on the additional control data item [SCD], the interconnection network [ICN] being arranged to apply a data item to the terminal indicated by the basic control data item [BCD] if the data item is valid [+], and, if the data item is not valid [-], to apply a valid data item instead; and
  - ~~a data processing circuit [PRC] for processing the data applied to the terminals in order to obtain an output data item.~~
  
2. (Currently amended) A method of processing data, comprising the ~~following~~ steps of:
  - ~~a forming step [INP] in which~~ data items into successive groups of data [GRP] ~~are formed and generating~~ a basic control data item [BCD] and an additional control data item [SCD] ~~are generated for each group of data [GRP], a basic control data item [BCD] indicating for each data item one of a plurality of terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item should be applied, and an~~ said additional control data item [SCD] indicating for each data item if this data item is valid [+], or not valid [-];
  - ~~an application step applying [ICN] in which the~~ data items in successive groups of data [GRP] are applied to ~~the~~ terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] of a processor [PRC] in

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dependence on the basic control data item [BCD] ~~and on the additional control data item [SCD], the interconnection network [ICN] being arranged to apply a data item to the terminal indicated by the basic control data item [BCD] if the data item is valid [+]~~ and, if the data item is not valid [-], to apply a valid data item instead; and

- ~~a processing step [PRC] in which wherein the data items applied to the terminals are processed in order to obtain an output data item.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~"computer program" product~~ a computer program product, stored on a computer readable medium for a data processing arrangement, the "computer program" product comprising a set of instructions which, when loaded into ~~a~~ the data processing arrangement, causes this arrangement to carry out the following steps:

- a forming step ~~[INP]~~ in which data items are formed into successive groups of data [GRP] are formed and a basic control data item [BCD] and an additional control data item [SCD] are generated for each group of data [GRP], ~~a basic control data item [BCD] indicating for each data item one of a plurality of terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item should be applied, and an~~ said additional control data item [SCD] indicating for each data item if this data item is valid [+] ~~or not valid [-]~~;

- an application step ~~[ICN]~~ in which data items of the successive groups of data [GRP] are applied ~~to the terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] of a processor~~ in dependence on the basic control data item [BCD] ~~and on the additional control data item [SCD], the interconnection network [ICN] being arranged to apply a data item to the terminal indicated by the basic control data item [BCD] if the data item is valid [+]~~ and, if the data item is not valid [-], to apply a valid data item instead; and

- a processing step performed in said processor [PRC] in which the data items applied to the terminals are processed in order to obtain an output data item.

4. (New) The arrangement as recited in claim 1, wherein said basic control data item [BCD] indicates for each data item one of a plurality of said terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item is applied.

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5. (New) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein said basic control data item [BCD] indicates for each data item one of a plurality of said terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item is applied.

6. (New) The product as recited in claim 3, wherein said basic control data item [BCD] indicates for each data item one of a plurality of said terminals [1, 2, 3, 4] to which the data item is applied.